

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: :
Serial No. To be Assigned : Examiner: To be Assigned
5 Filed: Herewith : Group Art Unit: To be Assigned

For: **METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR MAINTAINING AND UPDATING
NETWORK ELEMENT CONFIGURATION IN AN xDSL NETWORK, AND AN
xDSL NETWORK ELEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the above-referenced U.S. patent application, please preliminarily amend the patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, please delete "TECHNOLOGICAL" and substitute therefore
--TECHNICAL--.

On page 3, line 32-33, please delete "is characterised in what is said in the
characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to such a method." and
substitute therefore performs the steps of transmitting a request for configuration
information from a first network element located on a first hierarchical level to a second
network element located on a second hierarchical level, which second hierarchical level is
above the first hierarchical level in the xDSL network but which second network element is
other than the network managing station, deciding, at the second network element that is
other than the network managing station, whether it is appropriate to read the configuration
information requested in the request for configuration information from a configuration
memory of the second network element, and in case it is decided to be appropriate, reading